GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
ENVIRONMENT, FORESTS AND CLIMATE CHANGE
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3304
ANSWERED ON:06.12.2016
Tiger Deaths in Thrissur Zoo
Ram Shri Janak;Somaiya Dr. Kirit

Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT, FORESTS AND CLIMATE CHANGE be pleased to state:

(a) whether incidents of tiger deaths in Zoos and Wildlife Sanctuaries/National Park have been reported in the country;
(b) if so, the details thereof during each of the last three years and the current year, State and Wildlife sanctuary/Zoo-wise including Thissur Zoo;
(c) whether a total 100 tiger deaths have been recorded in 2015-2016, if so, the reasons for the death of a huge number of tigers within a short period;
(d) the reasons for the deaths of tigers in the said Wildlife sanctuaries and Zoos; and
(e) the corrective steps being taken to prevent the deaths of tigers in the zoos and wildlife sanctuaries/National Park authorities?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE (INDEPENDENT CHARGE) FOR ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE
(SHRI ANIL MADHAV DAVE)

(a) to (d) Yes, Sir. The details of tiger deaths in Zoos and reasons thereof are at Annexure. Only 45 tigers have died in the Zoos during 2015-2016.
(e) The Central Zoo Authority has stipulated standards/norms under Recognition of Zoo Rules, 2009 for development and planning, housing and animal enclosures, upkeep and healthcare, veterinary care and infrastructure etc. in the zoos for better management of captive wild animals including tigers. Moreover, the Central Zoo Authority has issued following directives to all recognized zoos in the country:
1. Suggested Health Monitoring Protocol for Zoos.

2. Monitoring of Hygiene and incidence of Blood Borne Disease in Zoos.
3. Supply of quality feed for zoo animals.
4. Population control measures for Lions, Tigers and common ungulates.
Central Zoo Authority in association with the Indian Veterinary Research Institute, Bareilly and Tamil Nadu Veterinary and Animal Sciences University, Chennai has published following protocols/books for captive wild animals including tigers:
a) Standardisation of animal diets in Indian zoos.
b) Standards, Guidelines and Protocol of Disease Diagnosis and Care of Wild Animals in Indian Zoos.
c) Colour Atlas on parasites of captive and animals.
Central Zoo Authority has designated the Indian Veterinary Research Institute, Bareilly as National Referral Centre for disease diagnosis and care of wild animals. All recognized zoos of the country take help from the referral centre for health care of captive wild animals including tigers.
Protected Areas, viz., National Park/Sanctuaries, Conservation Reserves and Community Reserves covering important wildlife habitats have been created all over the country under the provisions of the Wild Life (Protection) Act, 1972 to conserve wild animals and their habitats.
Special programmes like 'Project Tiger' and 'Project Elephant' have been launched for conservation of these endangered species and their habitats.
In addition to provision of stringent punishment for the offenders, the Wild Life (Protection) Act, 1972 also provides for forfeiture of any equipment, vehicle or weapon that is used for committing wildlife offence(s).
The Wildlife Crime Control Bureau has been set up to ensure co-ordination among various officers and State Governments in connection with the enforcement of law for control of poaching and illegal trade in wildlife and its products.
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